

the opinion of a group of lawyers within an executive branch Agency as to the relative powers of the courts and the executive branch.

The question of interference with these investigations by the President and the independence of those investigations also raises a variety of constitutional questions.

I have to say the top line of Mr. Barr on all of these issues was fantastic. I was kind of mentally cheering when he said some of the things he said about how he was going to keep his hands off, how he respected Mueller, how this was no witch hunt, how he was going to make sure it had full scope, how he was going to try to get the maximum transparency about the final report that he could—all of which was fine—and then we went into the weeds a little bit.

As the old saying goes, the devil is in the details. The question was serious enough that I raised it in the committee after the hearing because I was unsatisfied with his responses. Chairman GRAHAM was kind enough to acknowledge that those were pretty darn good questions, and I should get an answer to them. He said he would try to get an answer for me, and maybe we would get on the phone together to get Barr those answers. That did not come to pass.

Instead, I wrote Mr. Barr a letter, asking him to clarify his answers. I got back a letter that provided no clarification at all. So I have given him quite a few chances to try to answer these questions. I haven't gotten a straight answer back, which makes me a little bit worried.

Here is the problem—there are actually two problems. At the end of the day, whenever the Mueller report is concluded, that report can be provided to Congress, but there is considerable flexibility and considerable discretion within the Department of Justice and the Attorney General's office as to how much to give.

I will interrupt because I see the distinguished majority leader here.

I yield the floor to the distinguished majority leader.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I thank the Senator from Rhode Island.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### TRIBUTE TO EMILIA DiSANTO

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, today I wish to acknowledge Emilia DiSanto, an outstanding civil servant who is retiring after almost 36 years of distinguished service in the Federal Government, 16 of which were here on Capitol Hill.

Emilia is a proud New Yorker, who graduated from Fordham Law School. She served in the Department of Energy, at the Legal Services Corporation, in both the House and Senate, and she worked for inspectors general.

Emilia is the ultimate civil servant who worked in both the executive and legislative branches of government. During her 16-year career on Capitol Hill, Emilia worked for, among others, Speaker Newt Gingrich and former Representative Bill Goodling, Henry Hyde, Bill McCollum, and Ambassador Pete Hoekstra. In the Senate, Emilia served as staff director for the Small Business Committee for Senator Kit Bond and, later, Senator Olympia Snow.

I had the pleasure of having Emilia on my staff in two different capacities. First, as the chief investigative counsel for the Special Committee on Aging where she conducted oversight of the nursing and funeral home industries. Emilia later served on the Finance Committee as my chief investigative counsel and special counsel and tackled such issues as drug and device safety, medical conflicts of interest, and other healthcare issues. She is known to be trustworthy, bold, honest, and bipartisan. Emilia has boundless energy and good judgment, and she is deeply committed to the interests of the American people. The American people are better off because of her public service.

#### CENTRE COLLEGE BICENTENNIAL

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, Kentucky's rich history brings many causes of reflection and celebration. For 200 years, Centre College has been a premier setting for liberal arts education in Kentucky, earning nationwide acclaim and respect. So today I would like to commemorate the bicentennial of one of the Commonwealth's most treasured institutions.

In 1819, the Kentucky Legislature formally established the school in Danville, giving it a name inspired by its central geographic location. Overseeing the school was a board of trustees filled with notable Kentuckians, including our first Governor, Isaac Shelby, as its chairman and Ephraim McDowell, the famed frontier surgeon who performed the first successful ovariectomy. Construction began shortly after on the school's first building, which was completed the next year and stands to this day with the name "Old Centre." Classes began that fall with two professors and five pupils. With a commitment to classical liberal arts education, the curriculum focused on topics such as Latin, Greek, rhetoric, and logic.

Encountering financial difficulties in subsequent years, Kentucky ceded administration of Centre to a Presbyterian denomination but the legislature ensured that the school would remain accessible to students and faculty of all faiths. In 1830, a new president

took the reins of the school. Twenty-seven-year-old John C. Young, a minister, teacher, and administrator, expanded the college and helped advance it toward distinction. At the end of his 27 years of leadership, the school boasted a 200-plus student body, secured an endowment of more than \$100,000, and employed a renowned faculty.

Through the following decades, the school continued to grow in excellence and impact. Although the Civil War caused a temporary drop in the number of graduates—and the successive occupations of Old Centre by Confederate and Union forces—Centre's commitment to its liberal arts mission never wavered. The school had gained such great national distinction that the president of Princeton University, also the future President of the United States Woodrow Wilson, is said to have remarked in 1903 that, "There is a little college down in Kentucky which, in her sixty years, has graduated more men who have acquired prominence and fame than has Princeton in her 150 years."

Centre's reputation for excellence has reached beyond the classroom. In what the New York Times would later call "Football's Upset of the Century," the Praying Colonels scored an unlikely victory over the top-ranked Harvard University football team in 1921. Not long after, Centre officially became coeducational in 1926. The following decades saw the integration of the school, the expansion of the campus to include new buildings, and the establishment of a chapter of the prestigious Phi Beta Kappa honor society.

One of the greatest measures of a college are the alumni it has produced. Centre graduates can be found in a wide range of distinguished fields, including the highest levels of the U.S. Government. Vice Presidents John C. Breckinridge and Adlai Stevenson both held diplomas from the school, as did Supreme Court Chief Justice Fred Vinson and Associate Justice John Marshall Harlan. More than a dozen U.S. Senators, scores of Congressmen, and 11 Governors have also graduated from the school, as have leaders in business, medicine, law, and journalism. Perhaps it was the school's history of producing Vice Presidents and other prominent figures that led to its hosting of not one, but two Vice Presidential debates, in 2000 and 2012.

For such an impressive milestone, Centre has planned a year of celebratory events to mark its history and to herald its potential for the future. With President John Roush, the faculty, staff, students, and one of the most engaged alumni bases in the country, I am proud to mark Centre College's bicentennial. They all deserve the Senate's congratulations and best wishes for the future of liberal arts education in Kentucky.